The County of Centre

PROCLAMATION

NUMBER 18 OF 2013

WHEREAS, discharged veterans of the United States Armed Forces are entitled and encouraged to record their Discharge Certificates (DD214's) or any other certificate of discharge or release from duty that was issued by the United States Government or any State Government in reference to those who served with Military, Reserve Unit, or National Guard Forces, at the Centre County Recorder of Deeds Office free of charge; and

WHEREAS, discharge records have restrictive access and are confidential and *not Public Record* and no disclosure thereof shall be made except as permitted by law. Therefore, a copy of a Military Discharge record may be made available only with the proper identification, to the subject named on the document, a surviving spouse, a member of the subject's immediate family, or to that subject's agent or representative duly authorized in writing, or when required by process of a court order, any department or agency of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the United States Government, or a county Director of Veterans Affairs; and

WHEREAS, discharge papers are proof of military service, and can be used to establish eligibility for a variety of benefits purposes including employment, retirement, civil service, financial aid, and property tax exemptions programs; and

WHEREAS, original discharge records should be safeguarded by storing in a safety deposit box, vault, or fire proof strongbox and never given out or distributed; and

WHEREAS, the process of recording discharge papers is done at the Centre County Recorder of Deeds Office in the Willowbank Building in Bellefonte, PA on any business day, and is fast, efficient, simple and free; and

WHEREAS, the Centre County Recorder of Deeds Office through Centre County Government can provide veterans, their dependents, or others authorized, with certified copies of discharge documents that will be of full force and effect as an original, free of charge, at any time in the future.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Centre County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim November, 2013 as "**RECORD YOUR DISCHARGE MONTH**" in Centre County and urges all veterans who have not already done so to record their discharge documents at their convenience as soon as possible.

ADOPTED this 29th day of October, 2013.

CENTRE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

ver G. Dershem, Chairman

C. Chris Exarchos

Michael Pipe

ATTEST:

Timothy T. Boyde, Director Administrative Services